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CLAIMS:

- 1. A composition comprising,
- (a) from about 1 to 99 weight percent, based on the total weight of the composition, of pigment particles; and
- (b) from about 1 to 99 weight percent, based on the total weight of the composition , of a polymer effective to inhibit the agglomeration of the pigment particles when dispersed in a liquid medium:

characterized in that the polymer is polymerised from a vinyl halide, a vinyl ester and a monomer having a sulfonic acid group or a derivative thereof and is effective to provide a Viscosity Retention Factor of 5 or less.

- 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the polymer is effective to provide a Viscosity Retention Factor of 3 or less.
- 3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the polymer is effective to provide a Viscosity of 700 centipoises or less.
- 4. The composition of claim 3 wherein the polymer is effective to provide a Viscosity of 200 centipoises or less.
- 5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the monomer is selected from the group consisting of 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid, sulfoethyl methacrylate, sulfomethyl methylacrylate, and mixtures thereof.
 - 6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is a solid.

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- 7. The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is a dispersion of the pigment particles in the liquid medium.
- 5 8. The composition of claim 7 wherein the liquid medium is a solvent for the polymer.
 - 9. The composition of claim 7 wherein the liquid medium is a monomer.
 - 10. The composition of claim 8 wherein the solvent is an ester or a ketone.
- 11. A coating made from the composition of claim 15 1.
 - 12. A coated substrate comprising a substrate having coated thereon a coating made from the composition of claim 1.

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